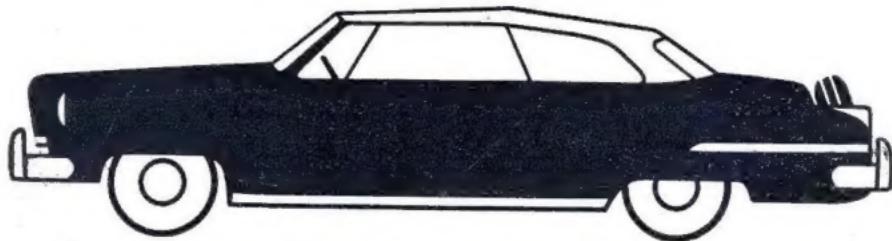


STRANGE ADVENTURES

ONLY CAPTAIN COMET
COULD STOP OUR INVASION
FROM THE GOLDEN ATOM--
AND NOW HE'S POWERLESS
TO STOP US!



Draw This Car



**Free \$295⁰⁰
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6 PRIZES

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AMATEURS ONLY! Our students not eligible. Make copy of car 8 ins. long. Pencil or pen only. Omit the lettering. All drawings must be received by Sept. 30, 1953. None returned. Winners notified.

USE ONLY ONE COUPON... Leave the other coupons so your friends can also enter drawings. Pass this ad on to your friends. Maybe they'll win prizes, TOO!

**Art Instruction, Inc., Dept. 8503-1
500 S. 4th., Minneapolis 15, Minn.**

Please enter my attached drawing
in your Draw a Car contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____

Zone _____ County _____

State _____ Occupation _____

**Art Instruction, Inc., Dept. 8503-2
500 S. 4th., Minneapolis 15, Minn.**

Please enter my attached drawing
in your Draw a Car contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____

Zone _____ County _____

State _____ Occupation _____

**Art Instruction, Inc., Dept. 8503-3
500 S. 4th., Minneapolis 15, Minn.**

Please enter my attached drawing
in your Draw a Car contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____

Zone _____ County _____

State _____ Occupation _____

CAPTAIN COMET



SCIENTISTS SAY IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OUR UNIVERSE IS BUT A SPECK--A DUST-MOTE--IN SOME SUPER-GIGANTIC COSMOS! IF THAT IS SO, WHY CAN'T THERE BE A SUB-WORLD--INSIDE AN ATOM, FOR INSTANCE? **CAPTAIN COMET**--THE AMAZING MAN BORN 100,000 YEARS AHEAD OF HIS TIME AND POSSESSING UNIQUE FUTURISTIC POWERS--ENTERS SUCH A WORLD IN A DESPERATE EFFORT TO SEEK OUT AND DEFEAT...

THE INVADERS FROM THE GOLDEN ATOM

IN MIDWEST CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY,
ADAM BLAKE--INFORMATION
CLERK--WATCHES A LATE-
ARRIVAL COME TO WORK...

THAT'S THE THIRD MORNING IN
A ROW THAT LUCY TORRENCE
HAS BEEN LATE--AND SHE'S
ALWAYS SO PROMPT! I
WONDER WHAT'S WRONG?
SHE LOOKS DISTURBED...
AND PALE...



LATER THAT DAY, AS ADAM GETS
A CHANCE TO SPEAK TO HIS
YOUNG AND PRETTY COLLEAGUE...
YES, I AM UPSET, ADAM! I'M
GLAD YOU ASKED--I MUST
TELL SOMEONE ABOUT THE
DREAMS I'VE BEEN HAVING!



STRANGE ADVENTURES

"STRANGE,
HORRIBLE
DREAMS !
THEY
STARTED
EARLIER
THIS
WEEK !
I AWOKE
ONE
MORNING...
TO FIND
MYSELF
WEARING..."



"I DREAMED THAT THE VOICE ORDERED ME TO DRESS AND LEAVE MY APARTMENT... ON A FANTASTIC ERRAND!"

I MUST GET ALL THAT IS WRITTEN DOWN HERE... A MAGNET... AND ALL THIS SPECIAL ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT! I MUST BUY IT--OR BORROW IT... BUT SOMEHOW I MUST SECURE IT--ALL OF IT!



"WHEN THE MACHINE WAS FINISHED--WITH THE RING SET BENEATH IT--THE VOICE GREW STRONGER AS IT GAVE ME AN EMPHATIC COMMAND..."



"SOMEHOW I RESISTED! I DIDN'T TURN IT! I AWOKE IN THE MORNING WITH RELIEF WHEN I REALIZED IT WAS ALL A DREAM! BUT THEN..."

ON THE TABLE! THE MACHINE I--I BUILT! IT WAS NO DREAM--I DID GO OUT--I DID BRING BACK THAT EQUIPMENT! B-BUT WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN? OH, I'M FRIGHTENED!



STRANGE ADVENTURES

F
THOUGHT OF GOING TO THE POLICE, BUT I WAS AFRAID THEY'D THINK ME MAD... "



SOON, AFTER MILD-MANNED ADAM BLAKE HAS TRANSFORMED HIMSELF IN THE SECRECY OF A LIBRARY CUBICLE ... INTO HIS BRILLIANT ALTER EGO ...

CAPTAIN COMET!

ADAM BLAKE CONTACTED ME, MISS TORRENCE--AND TOLD ME ABOUT THE STRANGE DREAMS YOU'VE BEEN HAVING ! WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I'D LIKE A LOOK AT THAT MACHINE YOU BUILT !

LATER, IN THE YOUNG LIBRARIAN'S APARTMENT...

...AND THE QUEER VOICE FROM THE RING ORDERED YOU TO TURN THIS DIAL ?

YES ! BUT SOME INSTINCT WARNED ME NOT TO !



BOLDLY, THE HAND OF THE STALWART MAN OF DESTINY REACHES OUT TO TURN THE DIAL ...

WE MUST GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS, MISS TORRENCE ! LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE DIAL IS TURNED !

LOOK ! THE RING SEEMS TO BE THROWING OFF A PECULIAR RADIATION !



THE NEXT MOMENT... INCREDIBLY...

CAPTAIN COMET--HERE ! THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STOP OUR INVASION FROM THE GOLDEN ATOM !

HE MUST BE PUT OUT OF THE WAY, AURON !



A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, THE RAY WEAPONS OF THE AMAZING INVADERS ARE TURNED ON THE MAN OF DESTINY ...

OH ! CAPTAIN COMET !

CANT MOVE ! THEIR RAY-GUNS HAVE COVERED ME WITH A COATING OF SOLID GOLD ! BUT-- MY FUTURISTIC BODY IS ALREADY RESPONDING TO THE EMERGENCY ...



STRANGE ADVENTURES

In a swift reaction, Captain Comet's extraordinary, futuristic body* generates intense heat...to melt the gold!

It took a moment for my mutant's body to react to the surprise attack--but now I'm ready to deal with these invaders!

He has outwitted us!

Quick! Reverse the size-changing element! We must find another way to defeat him!

Disappearing into their own atomic world!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: CAPTAIN COMET IS A MUTANT--A HUMAN BORN ON EARTH FAR IN ADVANCE OF HIS NORMAL ERA, AND POSSESSING EXTRAORDINARY SUPER-SCIENTIFIC POWERS!

The next moment, the atomic warriors have disappeared...

Wh--what does this all mean, Captain Comet?

Those creatures live in an atom within the ring--and are preparing an invasion of our world!

Swiftly, the Man of Destiny examines the strange mechanism--then makes a few alterations in its wiring...

Then as the rays from the machine envelop Captain Comet...

He--he's no bigger than a thimble--and disappearing into the ring!

What are you doing?

Reversing this machine so that its radiation--instead of enlarging the atom-creatures--will make me smaller!

You've become so small...

I'll keep shrinking until I enter their atom-world--it's the only way I can combat this peril at its source!



STRANGE ADVENTURES

SECONDS LATER, THE MAN OF DESTINY EMERGES INTO THE WORLD OF THE GOLDEN ATOM ...

CAPTAIN COMET! I KNEW HE WOULD TRY TO FOLLOW US! QUICK, WARRIORS! SEIZE HIM!

LOOKS LIKE THEY STATIONED THEIR ARMY HERE -- WAITING FOR ME!



SWIFTLY, HEAVY GOLDEN CHAINS ARE FLUNG AROUND THE LONE EARTHMAN ...

NOT QUITE HELPLESS... BUT I'LL JUST PRETEND I AM--TO GIVE MYSELF TIME TO SIZE UP THESE CREATURES AND THEIR WORLD!



BOUND AND SURROUNDED BY THE ATOM-MEN, THE "CAPTIVE" INTRUDER IS LED TOWARD A MASSIVE BUILDING IN THE CITY...

I'VE ALREADY NOTICED ONE ODD THING ABOUT THIS WORLD-- THERE IS NO PLANT LIFE HERE!



INSIDE THE BUILDING, AN "EXECUTION" IS HURRIEDLY PREPARED...

NOT EVEN CAPTAIN COMET WILL BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND THE MILLION-VOLT SHOCK FROM OUR ELECTRO-GOLD GENERATORS, AURON!

A MILLION VOLTS? HMM! THEY MAY BE IN FOR A GREATER SHOCK THAN I AM!



AS THE SWITCH IS THROWN AND A BLINDING FLASH OF ENERGY HURLES AT THE EARTHMAN ...

HE IS UNHARMED! THE VOLTAGE MERELY BROKE HIS CHAINS!

I-I FEEL WEAK!



SUDDENLY THE CREATURES AROUND CAPTAIN COMET BEGIN TO SINK TO THE FLOOR ...

WE ARE BEING POISONED! THAT DEADLY GAS ...

GREAT STARS! NOW I KNOW WHY NO PLANTS EXIST HERE! PLANT RESPIRATION REQUIRES CARBON DIOXIDE -- THE GAS THAT HUMANS EXHALE! MY PRESENCE HERE IS POISONING THESE CREATURES! THEY ARE VULNERABLE TO THE CARBON DIOXIDE MY LUNGS ARE GIVING OFF!





STRANGE ADVENTURES

LISTEN TO ME! I WILL LEAVE HERE-- ON ONE CONDITION-- THAT YOU CREATURES OF THE GOLDEN ATOM NEVER AGAIN SEEK TO INVADE EARTH!

GASP! WE AGREE, CAP- TAIN COMET! BUT LEAVE QUICKLY-- BEFORE YOU CONTAMINATE ALL OUR ATMOSPHERE!

IT'S A DEAL! BUT REMEMBER-- IF YOU TRY ANY TRICKS--IF IN THE FUTURE ANYONE ON EARTH STARTS HAVING STRANGE DREAMS ABOUT VOICES COMING FROM A GOLDEN RING--I'LL BE BACK HERE! THAT'S A PROMISE TOO!

N LUCY'S APARTMENT SOON AFTER ...

CAPTAIN COMET! ARE YOU-- ALL RIGHT?

YES, I AM, LUCY! AND I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE ANY MORE OF THOSE DREAMS! BUT TO MAKE SURE, THERE'S SOME- THING WE'RE GOING TO DO ...



LATER, AS THE MAN OF DESTINY'S JETSHIP-- THE SLEEK COMETEER-- FLASHES OVER THE OCEAN...



GOOD! AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN, THE RING--AND THE GOLDEN ATOM IN IT--WILL BE SEALED OFF FROM EARTH FOREVER!

THE NEXT DAY... IN MIDWEST CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY...

--AND THEN I THREW THE RING INTO THE OCEAN!

THAT WAS QUITE AN ADVENTURE, LUCY! TOO BAD YOU HAD TO LOSE YOUR GOLD RING--BUT MAYBE SOMEDAY I--ER--A LUCKY MAN WILL PLACE ANOTHER ONE ON YOUR MARRIAGE FINGER!



The End (6)

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INK RESERVE
FOUNTAIN PEN
Never again be caught
with an empty pool!

AMAZING RATIOS



ALTHOUGH A BILLIARD BALL APPEARS EXTREMELY SMOOTH TO THE EYE AND TOUCH, IT WOULD HAVE HIGHER "MOUNTAINS" AND DEEPER "OCEANS" THAN ARE FOUND ANYWHERE ON EARTH IF IT WERE MAGNIFIED UP TO THE SIZE OF THE EARTH...



COMET DONATI WHEN IT WAS AT ITS BRIGHTEST, OCTOBER 5, 1858.

THE SUN AND MOON ARE BOTH ABOUT 1/10 TIMES THEIR OWN DIAMETERS DISTANT FROM THE EARTH. THIS EXPLAINS WHY THEY BOTH APPEAR THE SAME SIZE IN THE SKY AND WHY THE MOON SO NEATLY ECLIPSES THE SUN WHEN THEY ARE IN THE SAME LINE OF SIGHT...



THERE IS MORE MATERIAL IN ONE CUBIC INCH OF ORDINARY AIR THAN IN 2000 CUBIC MILES OF A COMET'S TAIL...

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STRAPS TO YOUR WRIST LIKE A WRIST WATCH!

ONLY 25¢ IN COIN AND 2 SKY BAR WRAPPERS

THIS SKY BAR MAGNETIC COMPASS WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH SPACE...ON LAND AND ON WATER!

BE THE FIRST OF YOUR GANG TO HAVE THIS WONDERFUL COMPASS. SEND THIS COUPON TODAY!

SKY BAR IS A GRAND CANDY TREAT. 4 DELICIOUS CENTERS IN EVERY BAR! ENGLISH TOFFEE...HONEY NUGGET...FUDGE PARFAIT...PEANUT WHIP!

SKY BAR
NECCO SKY BAR

ANOTHER NECCO TREAT

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OFFER LIMITED TO THE U.S.A.

Binky

says: "GIVE YOUR PET
ALL THE BREAKS!"



PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY,
COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U.S.



THE MAN WHO SAW THE FUTURE!

A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE REVEALED HOW JOHN KARN WAS GOING TO DIE--BUT NOT WHEN! FRANTICALLY THE DOOMED MAN SCHEMED AND PLOTTED TO AVERT HIS FATE...UNTIL FINALLY WHEN HE THOUGHT HE HAD SUCCEEDED IN ESCAPING THE CLUTCHING HAND OF DESTINY, HE DISCOVERED HE HAD BECOME TRAPPED BY HIS OWN SUCCESS!

THE TEN YEARS OF HARD WORK THAT JOHN KARN HAS SLAVED TO PERFECT HIS INVENTION ARE ABOUT TO END IN SUCCESS...OR FAILURE...

IF THIS EYE-SCANNER WORKS, I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE ANYTHING, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME! I'LL TEST IT BY FOCUSING IT ON THAT BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET!

I'M TAKING THIS SPACE-SHIP TO THE MOON! YOU'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO ME THERE!

RAPIDLY, KARN ADJUSTS THE DIALS, THEN...

THE EYE SHOWS THE BUILDING IN RUINS! HOW FAR INTO THE FUTURE IS IT PROBING? MAYBE I OUGHT TO WARN THE TENANTS OF A DISASTER...





STRANGE ADVENTURES



BUT AS THE INVENTOR RUSHES TO THE BUILDING SITE! ...

BUILDING TO BE TORN DOWN NEXT WEEK. A MODERN 30-STORY OFFICE BUILDING WILL BE ERECTED HERE.

WAIT A MINUTE! I SAW THE BUILDING AS IT'S BEING TORN DOWN--STARTING NEXT WEEK!

ON A SUDDEN IMPULSE, HE TURNS THE MACHINE ON HIMSELF...

I'LL SEE MY OWN FUTURE! WHAT'S THAT PICTURE COMING INTO FOCUS..?

IT'S ME--HANGING BY MY NECK FROM A NOOSE! I'M DESTINED TO HANG! BUT WHEN? MY INVENTION CAN'T TELL ME!

DRIVEN BY DESPERATION, KARN JOINS THE HUNDREDS OF VOLUNTEERS--AND IS CHOSEN!

REMEMBER, GENTLEMEN--THE LUNAR FOUNDATION IS INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHS AND MAPS OF THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOON--THE PORTION THAT IS NEVER SEEN FROM EARTH!

AN ARDENT BASEBALL FAN, KARN DIRECTS HIS MACHINE AT THE YANKEE STADIUM...

THE YANKEES ARE PLAYING THE BOSTON RED SOX--BUT THE START OF THE BASEBALL SEASON IS THREE WEEKS AWAY! MY EYE-SCANNER CAN SEE INTO THE FUTURE ALL RIGHT--BUT THE TIME VARIES...



THEN--AS KARN'S EYES FALL ON A NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT...

HELP WANTED
ABLE-BODIED
LAND SURVEYOR
TO ACCOMPANY
ANTON SOLON,
FAMED
ASTRO-PILOT,
TO THE MOON.
APPLY TO...
LUNAR FOUNDATION

THIS GIVES ME AN IDEA! WHY WAIT FOR MY FATE TO OVERTAKE ME? I'LL TRY TO ESCAPE THE NOOSE BY GOING TO THE MOON!

A ROAR, A BLAST OF FLAME--AND THE ROCKET TAKES OFF FOR THE MOON!



STRANGE ADVENTURES

FOUR DAYS LATER, THE ROCKET REACHES THE EARTH'S SATELLITE...

PREPARE FOR LANDING! I'M SETTING THE SHIP DOWN BESIDE THOSE OPENINGS IN THE CLIFF WALLS!



MOMENTS LATER--THE LUNAR EXPLORATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN...

WE'LL GET INTO THIS FISSURE, KARN! IT'LL PROTECT US FROM METEORS AND COSMIC RADIATION!



METEORS DON'T WORRY ME! THE ONLY THING I HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR IS--A HOOSE!

INSIDE THE FISSURE...

WE'LL EXPLORE THIS PIT, FIRST! IT DOESN'T LOOK TOO DEEP! I'LL LOWER YOU ON THE ROPE!

BE CAREFUL, WILL YOU? I--ER--DON'T LIKE ROPE!



LOWERED BY SOLON, KARN DANGLES DOWN, DOWN, UNTIL...

KARN! WATCH OUT FOR THAT ROPE!

THE ROPE'S TIGHTENING AROUND MY NECK! LIKE THE SCENE I SAW IN THE EYE!



SUDDENLY THE ROPE, FRAYED BY ROCK, BREAKS!

WHOW! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! ... WHAT HAVE I FALLEN INTO HERE?



MOON DIAMONDS! WORTH A FORTUNE! BUT I CAN'T LET SOLON KNOW! HE'LL CLAIM THEM FOR THE FOUNDATION! I'LL LEAVE THEM--COME BACK LATER!

KARN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHAT'S HAPPENED DOWN THERE?





STRANGE ADVENTURES





STRANGE ADVENTURES



SHORT TIME LATER, KARN BLASTS OFF FROM THE MOON--WITH THE BODY OF HIS DEAD COMPANION IN TOW...

I'LL SAY HE DIED IN AN ACCIDENT ! THERE WERE NO WITNESSES--THEY CAN'T PROVE OTHERWISE ! MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT THE DIAMONDS SAFELY PACKED AWAY !



SEVERAL DAYS LATER, BACK ON EARTH...

WE CAN'T HOLD YOU, KARN ! THE VERDICT OF THE CORONER'S INQUEST IS ACCIDENTAL DEATH !

OF COURSE ! I TOLD YOU-- SOLON TRIPPED, AND HIS HELMET BROKE !



I KNEW I'D GET AWAY WITH IT ! NOW TO GET THOSE DIAMONDS AND TURN THEM INTO CASH !



SOON--IN A DIAMOND MERCHANT'S OFFICE, KARN BRINGS OUT HIS LUNAR TREASURE...

YOU SAID YOU HAD DIAMONDS--WHAT IS THIS--A JOKE ?

THE MOON DIAMONDS ! THEY CAN KEEP THEIR ATOMIC STRUCTURE ONLY ON THE AIRLESS MOON ! THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE TURNED THEM INTO COAL !



BACK IN HIS BOARDING HOUSE...

I HAD THE FEELING ALL THE WAY HOME THAT I WAS BEING TAILLED ! WHY ? HAVE THE POLICE UNCOVERED SOME NEW EVIDENCE OF WHAT REALLY HAPPENED ON THE MOON ?--I-I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY...

JUST AS I THOUGHT ! I'LL KEEP TAGGING AFTER HIM UNTIL HIS NERVES CRACK !



TWO DAYS LATER, IN A DISTANT TOURIST COURT...

THAT'S THE SAME MAN AGAIN... STILL FOLLOWING ME ! I'VE GOT TO LOSE HIM ! THE ROCKET'S MY BEST BET ! I'LL GET OFF EARTH AGAIN !





STRANGE ADVENTURES



BUT WHEN KARN REACHES THE ROCKET, HE FINDS
WAITING FOR HIM ...

THIS HAS GONE
FAR ENOUGH!
WHY ARE YOU
HOUNDING ME?

YOU KNOW WHY, KARN!
YOU MAY TAKE OFF IN THAT
ROCKET, BUT YOU WON'T
ESCAPE! SOONER OR
LATER, YOU'LL HANG FOR
THE MURDER OF
ANTON SOLON!

THEY'LL NEVER HANG
ME! I'D RATHER HANG
MYSELF FIRST!

IN ANY EVENT, KARN,
JUSTICE WILL TRIUMPH!

ALONE IN SPACE, HALF-CRAZED BY THE RELENTLESS
PURSUIT OF THE POLICE, KARN REACHES THE END
OF HIS...ROPE!

I GIVE UP--I CAN'T WARD
OFF MY FATE! BUT I'LL
NEVER GIVE THE POLICE
THE SATISFACTION OF
HANGING ME! I'LL KICK
AWAY THIS CHAIR--AND
THEY CAN READ MY
CONFESSIION--WHEN
IT'S TOO LATE!

THEN--DANGLING IN MID-AIR, THE SECONDS PASS...
THE MINUTES...BUT...

N-NOTHING'S HAPPENING--
OF COURSE! THERE'S NO
GRAVITY IN OUTER SPACE--
SO I WEIGH NOTHING! I'M
HANGING--JUST AS THE
EYE SHOWED--BUT I'M
ALIVE! I'M FREE! I'VE
BEATEN MY FATE!

HELLO--KARN! THIS
IS A POLICE PATROL
ROCKET! WE'RE
COMING ABOARD
YOUR SHIP!

THIS IS DETECTIVE WILLETT,
KARN! WE'VE GOT GUNS
TRAINED ON YOU! ONE
FALSE MOVE AND WE'LL
SHOOT YOU DOWN!

NO--DON'T SHOOT!
I'M HELPLESS--
CAN'T MOVE!



FINALLY--INEXORABLE FATE CATCHES UP TO
JOHN KARN...

I'VE GOT YOU NOW,
KARN! YOU'RE TRAPPED
BY YOUR OWN
CONFESSIION!

THE EYE WAS RIGHT!
I'M GOING TO HANG
AFTER ALL!



THE
END



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WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

POLIO
V Research
will mean
Victory!

GAMMA GLOBULIN—
obtained from human blood—
protects for a few weeks.
But it is in very short supply.

When **POLIO** is around,
follow these **PRECAUTIONS**

- 1 Keep clean
- 2 Don't get fatigued
- 3 Avoid new groups
- 4 Don't get chilled

A VACCINE

is not ready for 1953. But
there is hope for the future.

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION
FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Science says you're wrong if you BELIEVE THAT...

THE SAME OBJECTS WEIGH THE SAME ALL OVER THE EARTH...



AN OBJECT WEIGHS MORE AT THE POLES THAN AT THE EQUATOR, BECAUSE THE EARTH BULGES OUT A LITTLE AROUND THE EQUATOR, MAKING IT FURTHER FROM THE CENTER OF GRAVITY. AN AVERAGE NEW YORKER WEIGHS SIX OUNCES LESS AT THE EQUATOR, AND SIX OUNCES MORE AT THE NORTH POLE! INDEED, HE WILL WEIGH A TRIFLE LESS IN HIS UP-STAIRS BEDROOM THAN IN HIS LIVING ROOM!

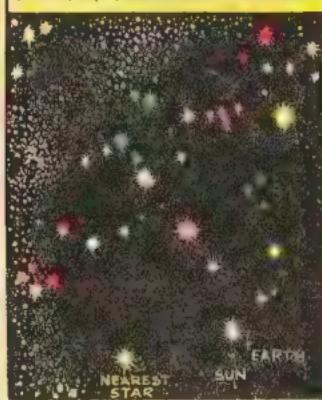


MOUNTAINS REMAIN
THE SAME HEIGHT
DAY BY DAY...



DURING HOT WEATHER, THE METALS AND MINERALS OF MOUNTAINS EXPAND, MAKING THE MOUNTAINS SLIGHTLY TALLER IN HOT WEATHER THAN IN COLD.'

THE NUMBER OF STARS IN THE SKY VARY FROM NIGHT TO NIGHT...



THERE ARE NO MORE STARS 'OUT' ON ONE NIGHT THAN ANY OTHER. WE SEE "MORE" ONLY BECAUSE ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS ARE BETTER.

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GET WILDROOT CREAM-OIL CHARLIE



CAN YOUR SCALP PASS
THE FINGERNAIL TEST?



Don't give dandruff and dryness a chance to ruin the looks of your hair. Keep it neat and natural all day with Wildroot Cream-Oil. Made with the heart of Lanolin, so much like the natural oil of your skin! It's America's largest selling hair tonic...by far!

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HAIR TONIC

MADE WITH
LANOLIN
CRODGETHE HAIR
RELIEVES DRYNESS
REMOVES
JOOSE DANDRUFF

29¢



the WONDER TOYS

WHEN THE FOREMAN OF THE ZENO TOY FACTORY MOCKINGLY SUGGESTED THAT HIS NEW HELPER COULD SPEED UP PRODUCTION IF HE HAD FOUR ARMS, THE WORKER DECIDED TO TAKE THE HINT... AND THUS BEGAN A SERIES OF MADCAP INCIDENTS THAT WAS TO TURN THE FACTORY ROUTINE TOPSY-TURVY !



ONE MORNING, IN THE OFFICE OF THE ZENO TOY FACTORY...

BUT MR. ZENO... THE REASON WE'RE BEHIND SCHEDULE IS WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH WORKERS!



AS THE FOREMAN LEAVES THE OFFICE IN LOW SPIRITS...

DO YOU MIND IF I LOOK AROUND THIS TOY FACTORY, SIR? I'D LIKE TO LEARN HOW YOU MAKE TOYS!

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A JOB HERE, KID? YOU CAN LEARN WHILE YOU WORK!



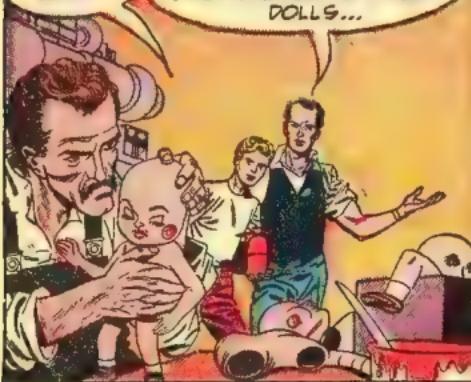


STRANGE ADVENTURES



MY NAME IS
DOOM BAW,
SIR--

OKAY--DUMBO, YOU CAN START
WITH SOMETHING SIMPLE...
LIKE ASSEMBLING THESE
DOLLS...



ALL YOU DO IS WIRE THE
HEAD, BODY, ARMS AND
LEGS TOGETHER!
THINK YOU CAN DO
THAT?

OH, YES--I'VE
SEEN DOLLS
BEFORE!



SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

PETE...LOOK AT THIS CRAZY
DOLL! WHAT'RE YOU TURNING
OUT AT THE ASSEMBLY BENCH?

HOLY SMOKE!
IT MUST BE
THAT NEW KID!
I'LL HAVE A
TALK WITH
HIM RIGHT
AWAY!



B-BUT WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
THE DOLLS?

WHAT'S WRONG?! NO WONDER
THEY CALL YOU DUMBO! TEAR
THESE APART, AND DO 'EM
RIGHT! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW!



THERE! THAT'S THE WAY IT'S
DONE! HURRY UP--YOU'VE
GOT TO ASSEMBLE 250
OF THEM BY THE END OF
THE DAY!

250 DOLLS!
GOSH, THAT'S
A LOT!



THAT'S OUR SCHEDULE,
KID! MAYBE YOU'D
BETTER GET YOUR-
SELF ANOTHER PAIR
OF HANDS!





STRANGE ADVENTURES



THE NEXT DAY, A SURPRISE AWAITS PETE!

CONGRATULATIONS, PETE!
1,000 DOLLS ASSEMBLED
IN ONE DAY!

1,000--!...UH...
EXCUSE ME, MR.
ZENO--I GOTTA
TALK TO SOME-
BODY!



THEN... AT DUMBO'S ASSEMBLY TABLE ...

--SO AFTER YOU GAVE
ME THE HINT, I DID IT!
IT REALLY IS EASY IF
I USE FOUR ARMS!

WHATEVER WAY YOU
DID IT IS OKAY WITH
ME! I'M WAY AHEAD
OF SCHEDULE ON
DOLLS, SO I
GUESS I'LL
PUT YOU ON
ANOTHER
JOB!



PAINT THESE CIRCUS
WAGONS RED, THEN
STRIBE THEM IN WHITE!

THAT'S DOING IT
THE HARD WAY!
DO YOU MIND IF
I USE MY OWN
METHOD?



THERE'S SOMETHING
ODD ABOUT THAT KID!
BUT... AS LONG AS HE
HELPS PRODUCTION,
WHY SHOULD I
KICK?



LATER, AT CLOSING TIME...

QUITTING TIME, DUMBO!
YOU CAN GO HOME--HEY!
THE WAGONS! YOU FINISHED
PAINTING THEM ALL?!

SURE!
IT WAS
EASY!

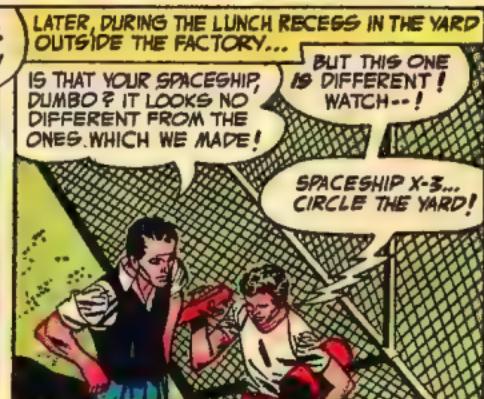


IT SEEMED LIKE A WASTE OF
TIME FIRST TO PAINT THE
WAGONS RED, THEN STRIPE
THEM IN WHITE. SO... I
USED STRIPED PAINT!

STRIPED PAINT?
WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
LET ME SEE
THAT CAN OF
PAINT!



STRANGE ADVENTURES





STRANGE ADVENTURES





STRANGE ADVENTURES



CARRIED AWAY BY HIS ENTHUSIASM, THE FOREMAN SLAPS DUMBO ON THE BACK, AND ...

JUST THE SAME, WE CAN STILL MAKE A FORTUNE OUT OF THIS !

HEY... I TRIPPED!
I'M FALLING INTO THE DOORWAY !



DUMBO, FALLING INTO THE WORLD OF THE FOURTH DIMENSION, APPEARS IN HIS TRUE FORM ...

TOO LATE ! I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO THE THIRD DIMENSION AGAIN ! OH, WELL-- NOW I'VE GOT PLENTY OF MATERIAL TO WRITE ABOUT FOR MY SCHOOL WORK !



FOR "DUMBO" IS A FOURTH-DIMENSIONAL SCHOOLBOY ! ... LATER ...

WELL, DOOM BAW, HAVE YOU DONE YOUR THEME ON THE FICTIONAL BEINGS OF THE THIRD DIMENSION ?

YES, TEACHER ! HERE IT IS !



WHEN THE STUDENTS LEAVE SCHOOL ...

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, DOOM BAW ? YOU WERE ABSENT FOR ALMOST A WEEK !

I WENT INTO THE WORLD OF THE THIRD DIMENSION -- STUDYING THEIR WAY OF LIFE ! BUT NO ONE KNEW I WAS FROM THE FOURTH DIMENSION BECAUSE WHEN I WENT THROUGH THE DOORWAY, MY SHAPE CHANGED TO LOOK LIKE THEIRS !

THE NEXT DAY...

I'M SORRY, DOOM BAW ! I HAD TO GIVE YOU A FAILING GRADE ON YOUR THEME ! IT DEALT WITH UTTER NONSENSE ! IMAGINE DESCRIBING BEINGS WITH ONLY TWO ARMS AND THE HEAD PLACED AWKWARDLY ON TOP OF THE BODY !



I DID GO INTO THE THIRD DIMENSION ! AND THE PEOPLE THERE DO HAVE TWO ARMS AND A HEAD ON TOP OF THE BODY ! BUT NOBODY WILL BELIEVE SUCH A FANTASTIC-LOOKING PERSON REALLY EXISTS ! DO YOU ?



SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE



THE CIGAR-SHAPED SOLAR SYSTEM!

ONE of the most popular questions put to astronomers is the one pertaining to the origin of the solar system. Each sky-scanner has his own pet theory and will argue for hours the superiority of his explanation over any other.

One theory which seems to be, in the main, as convincing as any other, supposes that the solar system resulted from a very rare cosmic accident. It suggests that the planets were torn out of the sun by the close approach of a passing star. If the star were sufficiently massive and its approach sufficiently close, huge tides would be raised on the sun and ultimately a colossal cigar-shaped filament would be torn out of it. Centers of condensation would be set up in this filament and each of these centers would separate off as a planet.

The evidence for this theory is quite good. First of all, the cigar-shaped filament, thickest in the middle, corresponds pretty well with observed sizes of the planets. For, if we imagine the planets lying in a straight line from the sun, in the order of their distances, the largest planets—Jupiter and Saturn—occur about the middle of this line. In either direction from the middle, towards or away from the sun, the planets tail off in size.

In its first stage the orbits of these planets would be very elliptical, not circular, as they are now. And in the course of describing these ellipses the planets would, at some period, pass

very close to the sun. The sun would then act on the planets precisely as the passing star had previously acted on the sun, and pull filaments out of them. These filaments would condense and give rise to the satellites revolving around most of the planets.

Evidence seems to point out that this is just what happened, for indeed the larger planets—Jupiter and Saturn—have several satellites, while the smaller planets have fewer moons, and in some cases, no moons.

Finally, the theory also explains the fact why planetary orbits have changed from their elongated elliptical orbits to more nearly circular ones. In the catastrophic break-up of the sun, a great deal of dusty, gaseous matter was scattered throughout the surrounding space. The planets in moving through this dust would be moving through a resisting medium, and the effect of this was to make the planetary orbits gradually approach the circular form.

As a matter of fact, the present departure of the planetary orbits from the strictly circular form enables the time that has elapsed since the break-up of the sun to be approximately calculated. Figures indicate that the solar collision occurred sometime between one and ten billion years ago, well within the range of the age of the solar system as calculated by other scientific tests.

CHEMICAL MAGIC!

Life exists in the universe only because the carbon atom possesses certain exceptional prop-

erties. Perhaps carbon is noteworthy chemically as forming a sort of transition between the metals and non-metals, but so far nothing in the physical constitution of the carbon atoms is known to account for its very special capacity of binding other atoms together.

The carbon atom consists of six electrons revolving around a central nucleus, like six planets revolving around a central sun. It appears to differ from its two nearest neighbors in the table of chemical elements, the atoms of boron and nitrogen, only in having one more electron than the former and one electron less than the latter. Yet this slight difference must account for the difference between life and the absence of life. No doubt the reason why the six-electron atom possesses these remarkable properties resides somewhere in the ultimate laws of nature, which we have been unable as yet to fathom.

Other similar cases are known to chemistry. Magnetic phenomena appear in a tremendous degree in iron and in a lesser degree in its neighbors, nickel and cobalt. The atoms of these elements have 26, 27, and 28 electrons respectively. The magnetic properties of all other atoms are almost negligible in comparison. For some reason we have been unable to learn why magnetism depends on the peculiar properties of the 26, 27, and 28 electron atoms, especially the first.

Radioactivity provides a third instance of relationship between neighboring atoms, being confined, with insignificant exceptions, to atoms having from 83 to 92 electrons. And here, as in the previous cases, chemists are baffled why this unique condition should exist.

UP, UP — AND AWAY!

Let us imagine that everything is all set for your first trip into space! You need have no concern about the spaceship reaching its destination, for all mechanical problems of space

flight have been solved . . . your only worry is you! How will you fare during the initial moments when the ship blasts off the Earth and hurtles into the mysterious void?

You hear someone counting backwards to zero . . . in a matter of seconds the takeoff buzzer will sound. You re-check your position. You are lying flat on a sort of chair bed, facing up—with a safety belt securely tied around you. Even the crew is in a similar prone position, you have been told, because they won't be able to perform any work during the first stage of flight, and besides automatic pilots governed by electronic controls are far more efficient and reliable.

Now suddenly the buzzer sounds and there's no more time to think. Your first reaction at the ship blasts off is purely instinctive and decidedly unpleasant. A wave of terror sweeps through your body—a psychological fear of falling, accentuated by weightlessness. Being in a "free fall," you feel as though you are suddenly hurtling downward. Every sense in your mind and body is screaming for support, anything to stop the wild and endless fall.

If you have kept your eyes closed all this time, you have no sense of up or down, or left and right. You don't even know, if reclining on your chair bed, whether or not your leg is actually on the chair or suspended a few inches in the air. To tell whether your right arm is up or down, you must open your eyes to look at the arm and find out.

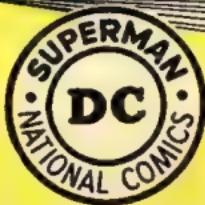
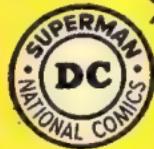
So the ship speeds spaceward—with more problems and more unique experiences for you to face. Space-minded fans who are interested in getting a simple, non-technical account of the various phases of interplanetary flight will do well to read Jeanne Bendick's "The First Book of Space Travel" (published by Franklin Watts, Inc.), from which volume the earlier graphic paragraphs have been adapted.

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STRANGE ADVENTURES



WHERE DID THEY COME FROM, THESE ODD, WONDER-WORKING CREATURES WHICH DEFIED THE FIVE SENSES? EVEN THE WILDEST IMAGININGS OF SCIENCE—FICTION WRITER FLOYD BARNES COULD NOT MATCH THE AMAZING TRUTH--AS BARNES FOUND OUT AFTER LIVING TEN TERRIBLE DAYS WITH--

The STRANGEST SHOW ON EARTH

FLOYD BARNES, SCIENCE-FICTION WRITER,
GETS SET TO BEGIN A NEW STORY...

MY EDITOR HAS WARNED ME TO COME UP WITH
AN ORIGINAL IDEA THIS TIME, OR HE'LL BOUNCE
THE STORY! MAYBE IF I THINK OF A NEW LIFE
FORM...



HALTINGLY, FLOYD STARTS TO TYPE ...

IT WAS A FLYING, LIVING ICE CRYSTAL. ITS
SINGLE STARING EYE CHILLED HIM TO THE
BONE, AND ITS TENTACLES--





STRANGE ADVENTURES



I'M SORRY OUR FLYING ICE CRYSTAL STARTLED YOU! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IT'S ESCAPED SINCE WE CAPTURED IT AT THE--ER--NORTH POLE! IT'S ONE OF THE ATTRACTIONS OF OUR SIDESHOW!



AH! YOU'RE A WRITER! PERHAPS YOU'D BE INTERESTED TO SEE OUR EXHIBITS!

IF THE REST ARE ANYTHING LIKE THAT CRYSTAL, YOU'LL MAKE A FORTUNE!

A FORTUNE? YES--THAT IS WHAT WE HOPE! WE'RE ALMOST READY FOR OUR FIRST PERFORMANCE! ONLY WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO ATTEND!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, ON A NEARBY LOT...

THIS IS OUR EXHIBIT! IF YOU'RE GOING TO WORK FOR US, YOU'D BETTER FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH OUR NOVEL ATTRACTIONS!





STRANGE ADVENTURES



THIS, SIR, IS THE TELEKIN--DISCOVERED IN THE JUNGLES OF AFRICA! IT CAN MOVE OBJECTS THROUGH THE POWER OF THE MIND ALONE!

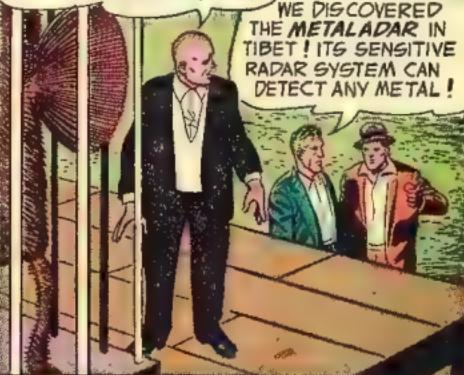
WATCH--!

HEY--MY HAT! IT FLEW OFF MY HEAD!



FOR OUR NEXT STARTLING EXHIBIT, WILL YOU PLEASE HOLD UP A METAL OBJECT? --AH, A COIN! THANK YOU, SIR!

WE DISCOVERED THE METALADAR IN TIBET! ITS SENSITIVE RADAR SYSTEM CAN DETECT ANY METAL!



THE NEXT MOMENT...

THE SILVER COLOR GIVEN OFF BY THE METALADAR SHOWS THIS COIN IS MADE OF SILVER!

CORRECT, SIR?

CORRECT! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!



I'M GOING TO CALL THE NEWSPAPERS NOW--THEY'LL SPREAD THIS ALL OVER THE FRONT PAGE!

YOU'RE VERY KIND TO HELP US, MR. BARNES!



THE NEWS STORIES ATTRACT ENORMOUS CROWDS TO THE SHOW! THEN, ONE WEEK LATER...

YOU'VE HAD 20,000 VISITORS IN ONE WEEK! I TOLD YOU THAT PUBLICITY WOULD PULL IN THE CROWDS!

VERY GOOD! BUT TOMORROW WE MUST MOVE ON! THIS TERRITORY IS ABOUT PLAYED OUT!



SO, THE NEXT DAY, THE SHOW IS LOADED ON TRUCKS, AND HEADED WESTWARD...

AN ABANDONED MINING CAMP, NOT TOO FAR FROM THE NEW TOWN, FLOYD! WE'LL SET UP CAMP HERE--

GOVAN--LOOK! THE METALADAR SENSES METAL! IT'S GIVING OFF A RED COLOR!





STRANGE ADVENTURES



SUDDENLY, GOVAN BRINGS THE TRUCKS TO A HALT AND...

I'VE CHANGED MY MIND... WE'RE ABANDONING THE TOUR! WE HAVE NO FURTHER USE FOR YOUR SERVICES, MR. BARNES!

YOU MEAN-- I'M FIRED? BUT WHY? AND WHY ARE YOU CLOSING?

NEVER MIND... YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO TOWN!



UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, FLOYD RETURNS TO THE ABANDONED MINES, AND...

THEY'RE SMELTING SOMETHING-- A BAR OF GLOWING METAL! NOW TO TURN ON THIS GEIGER COUNTER-- AND SEE IF MY HUNCH ABOUT URANIUM IS RIGHT!



AS THE SMELTING CONTINUES, WEARY HOURS PASS, WHILE FLOYD FEELS...

I--I CAN MOVE AGAIN! THE TELEKIN HAS BEEN SO BUSY, IT'S FORGOTTEN TO CONTROL ME! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO GET OUT OF HERE!



A FEW MORE BARS-- AND WE'RE THROUGH!

THAT NIGHT, STILL PUZZLED BY THE ABRUPT CANCELLATION OF THE SIDESHOW, FLOYD REACHES A DECISION...

A PRECIOUS RED-COLORED METAL-- COULD MEAN THE METALAR HAS DISCOVERED A URANIUM ORE! I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE SECRETLY-- WITH THIS GEIGER COUNTER!



BUT, UNKNOWN TO FLOYD, THE TELEKIN SENSES HIS PRESENCE AND SUDDENLY...

THE METAL IS URANIUM! THAT MEANS -- UGH! THE TELEKIN!

THE TELEKIN HAS DISCOVERED A SPY! FREEZE HIM!



YOU WON'T FREEZE ME-- AGHRRR! THE TELEKIN HAS PARALYZED HIM-- HE WON'T ESCAPE NOW! COME, DROLL!

WE MUST FINISH SMELTING THE URANIUM!



AS THE NUMBNESS DISAPPEARS FROM FLOYD'S LIMBS, HE RACES OUT OF THE MINE...

HE'S ESCAPED! FIND HIM-- OR HE'LL EXPOSE US TO THE AUTHORITIES!

I MUST GET TO THE TOWN'S AIRPORT! I'VE GOT TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNMENT-- THESE PEOPLE MIGHT BE ENEMY AGENTS!





STRANGE ADVENTURES



ELUDING HIS PURSUERS, FLOYD REACHES THE AIRPORT...

NO SIGN OF THEM! HOW MUCH LONGER BEFORE THE PLANE TAKES OFF, I WONDER?



AT LAST THE PLANE SOARS INTO THE SKIES, AND FLOYD HEAVES A SIGH OF RELIEF! BUT, AN HOUR OUT...

SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! THE STEWARDESS--THE PASSENGERS--ALL PARALYZED! DON'T TELL ME THAT--



IT IS! THE FLYING CRYSTAL! IT'S CAUGHT UP TO ME!



LET--M-ME GO!
I WON'T GO BACK--
AGHHRHHH!



WHEN FLOYD AWAKENS, HE IS ONCE AGAIN A PRISONER AT THE ABANDONED MINES...

GOVAN! WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

YOU WERE A FOOL TO THINK WE WOULD PERMIT YOU TO WARN YOUR GOVERNMENT AGAINST US! WE HAVE IMPORTANT WORK TO DO HERE--AND NOTHING MUST INTERFERE!



I WAS RIGHT! YOU'RE AN ENEMY AGENT! YOU NEED THE URANIUM TO MAKE ATOMIC BOMBS!

ATOMIC BOMBS? NONSENSE! THE URANIUM IS NEEDED TO FUEL OUR SPACESHIP AND CARRY US BACK TO OUR OWN WORLD!



SPACESHIP! YOU MEAN-- YOU'RE NOT AN EARTHMAN?

OF COURSE NOT! DROLL AND I ARE THE PILOTS OF A MARTIAN SPACELINER! WE RAN OUT OF FUEL AND HAD TO CRASH-- LAND ON EARTH UNTIL WE COULD DISCOVER MORE URANIUM!



OUR PASSENGERS--THE CRYSTAL FROM JUPITER, THE TELEKIN FROM SATURN--THE METALADAR FROM VENUS, TOOK THE ROLE OF "EXHIBITS" IN OUR SHOW AS A COVER-UP...WE NEEDED MONEY FOR SUPPLIES AS WE ROAMED ACROSS THE LAND IN SEARCH OF URANIUM. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE CRYSTAL'S CURIOSITY ABOUT YOU, FLOYD, WE WOULD NEVER HAVE FOUND YOU! YOU SHOWED US HOW TO MAKE MONEY, SO WE FOUND OUR FUEL! NOW WE CAN HEAD BACK INTO SPACE!

AND THAT NIGHT, THE INTERPLANETARY CASTAWAYS TAKE OFF TO RESUME THEIR INTERRUPTED JOURNEY!

I PUT THE EARTHTHAN BACK IN THE SAME ROOM WE FOUND HIM! HE WON'T REMEMBER A THING WHEN HE WAKES UP!

BUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?

NOTHING!--CRYSTAL! WIPE OUT ALL MEMORY OF US FROM HIS BRAIN!

AND ONCE AGAIN THE SCIENCE-FICTION WRITER SITS AT HIS TYPEWRITER...

NOW--WHERE WAS I? OH, YES--A LIVING ICE CRYSTAL...NO, THAT'S TOO FANTASTIC TO BELIEVE...OH, IF I ONLY HAD AN ORIGINAL STORY IDEA TO WRITE ABOUT!

The End

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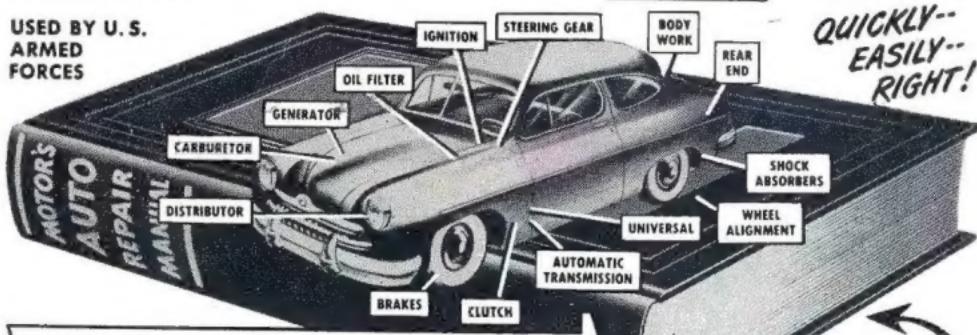
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